

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-25. **Withdrawn.**

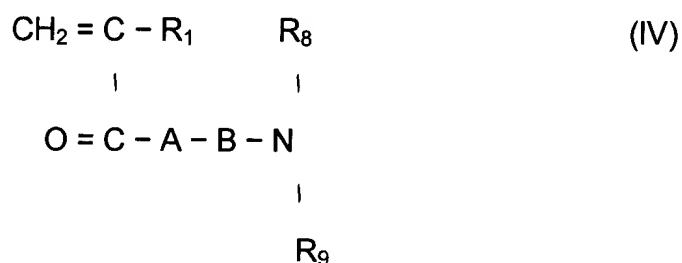
26 –45. **Currently Withdrawn.**

46. **(Previously Amended)** A cationic vinyl addition polymer comprising in polymerized form

- (a) at least one non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic monomer;
- (b) at least one cationic monomer; and
- (c) (meth)acrylamide;

wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 75 to 95 mole% of (meth)acrylamide;

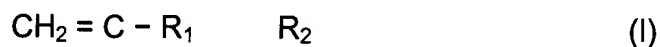
(a) said at least one non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic group comprising a monomer represented by the general formula (IV)

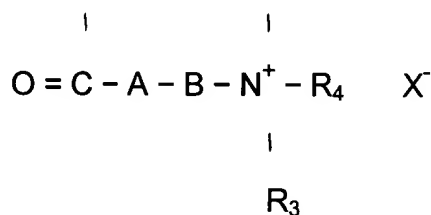


wherein R_1 is H or CH_3 ; A and B represent a single bond between C and N ($\text{O}=\text{C}-\text{NR}_8\text{R}_9$); R_8 and R_9 are each H or a substituent containing an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, at least one of R_8 and R_9 being a substituent containing an alkyl group having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms;

(b) said at least one cationic monomer comprising a cationic monomer selected from the group consisting of:

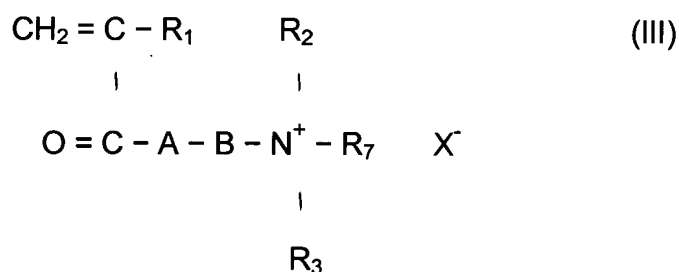
(i) cationic monomers represented by the general formula (I):





wherein R_1 is H or CH_3 ; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group; R_4 is a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms; and X^- is an anionic counterion;

(ii) cationic monomers represented by the general formula (III):



wherein R_1 is H or CH_3 ; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms, or a hydroxy propylene group; R_7 is H, an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, a benzyl group or a phenylethyl group; and X^- is an anionic counterion;

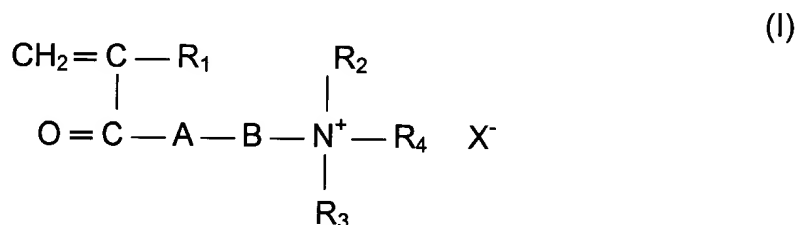
(iii) and mixtures thereof.

47. **(Original)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the (meth)acrylamide is acrylamide.

48-51. **Withdrawn.**

52. **(Original)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the non-aromatic hydrophobic group is an alkyl group selected from n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl and t-butyl.

53. **(Original)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer represented by the general formula (I):



wherein R_1 is H or CH_3 ; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group; R_4 is a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms; and X^- is an anionic counterion.

54. **Withdrawn.**

55. **(Previously Amended)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 5 to 25 mole% of non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic group, and from 95 to 75 mole% of at least one cationic monomer and (meth)acrylamide.